

Serial No. 10/755,737
Atty. Doc. No. 2001P07236WOUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Amendments To The Claims:

1. (withdrawn) A method for operating a steam power plant comprising:
providing a steam generator;
providing a combustion chamber operatively connected to the steam generator;
feeding pre-warmed combustion air and a fossil fuel into the combustion chamber;
releasing the combustion air in an output-producing manner after being pre-warmed and before being introduced into the combustion chamber; and
setting the output extracted during release on the basis of a characteristic value for the temperature of the combustion air flowing toward the combustion chamber.

2. (currently amended) A method ~~according to Claim 1~~ for operating a steam power plant comprising:
providing a steam generator;
providing a combustion chamber operatively connected to the steam generator;
feeding pre-warmed combustion air and a fossil fuel into the combustion chamber;
releasing the combustion air in an output-producing manner after being pre-warmed and before being introduced into the combustion chamber; and
setting the output extracted during release on the basis of a characteristic value for the temperature of the combustion air flowing toward the combustion chamber;
wherein a pneumatic conveyor provided for compressing the combustion air is driven via the output gained when releasing the pre-warmed combustion air.

3. (currently amended) A The method according to Claim 1 2, wherein the combustion air is pre-warmed within the steam generator.

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4. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to Claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein the combustion air is pre-warmed via flue gas flowing from a gas turbine.

5. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to Claim 4, wherein feed water is pre-warmed for the steam generator via the flue gas flowing from the gas turbine.

6. (withdrawn) A steam power plant comprising:
a steam generator for generating steam;
a combustion chamber operatively connected to the steam generator for the combustion of a fossil fuel, the combustion chamber connected on an inlet side to a fuel pipe and a fresh air pipe for receiving combustion air, whereby an air turbine is mounted downstream from an air pre-warmer in the fresh air pipe; and
a regulating device operatively connected to the air turbine, the regulating device connected on the inlet side to a temperature sensor arranged on the fresh air pipe.

7. (withdrawn) A steam power plant according to Claim 6, wherein the air turbine drives a pneumatic conveyor mounted upstream from the air pre-warmer in the fresh air pipe.

8. (withdrawn) A steam power plant according to Claim 7, wherein the pneumatic conveyor is designed as an air compressor that can generate an output pressure of approximately 4 to 5 bar.

9. (withdrawn) A steam power plant according to Claim 6, wherein the air pre-warmer is arranged within the steam generator.

10. (withdrawn) A steam power plant according to Claim 6, wherein the air pre-warmer is mounted on the primary side in a flue gas duct downstream of a gas turbine.

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11. (withdrawn) A steam power plant according to Claim 10, wherein a feed water pre-warmer assigned to the steam generator is mounted on the primary side in the flue gas duct downstream of the gas turbine.

12. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to Claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein the combustion air is partially released in an output-producing manner.

13. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to Claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein the characteristic value is the temperature level or the pressure.

14. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to Claim ~~2~~ 2, wherein the combustion air is pre-warmed within the steam generator.

15. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to Claim ~~2~~ 2, wherein the combustion air is pre-warmed via flue gas flowing from a gas turbine.

16. (withdrawn) A steam power plant according to Claim 7, wherein the air pre-warmer is arranged within the steam generator.

17. (withdrawn) A steam power plant according to Claim 8, wherein the air pre-warmer is arranged within the steam generator.

18. (withdrawn) A steam power plant according to Claim 7, wherein the air pre-warmer is mounted on the primary side in a flue gas duct downstream of a gas turbine.

19. (withdrawn) A steam power plant according to Claim 8, wherein the air pre-warmer is mounted on the primary side in a flue gas duct downstream of a gas turbine.

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20. (withdrawn) A steam power plant according to Claim 9, wherein the air pre-warmer is mounted on the primary side in a flue gas duct downstream of a gas turbine.